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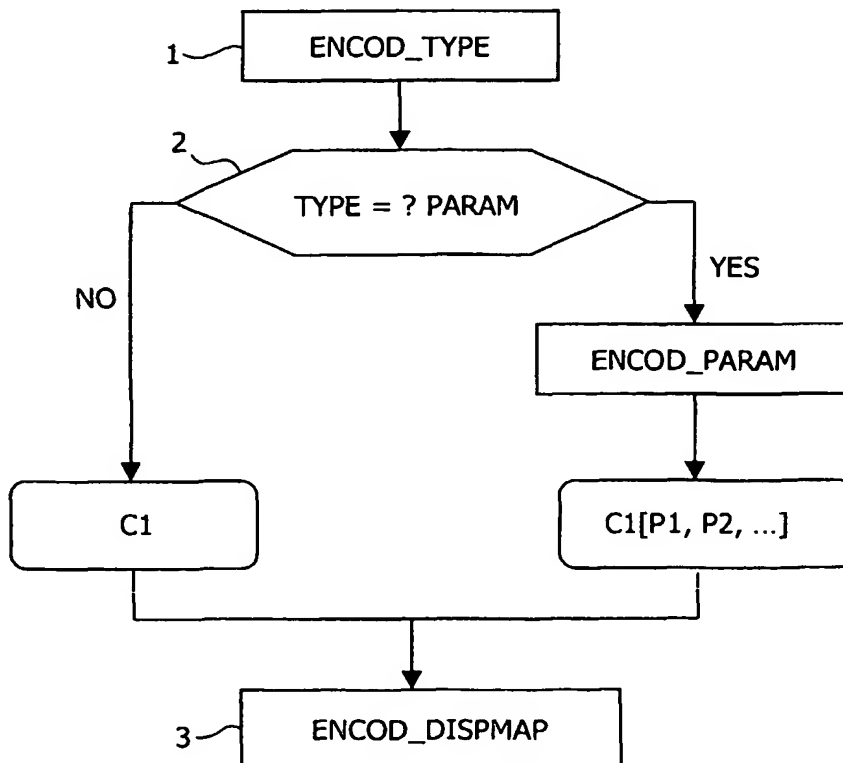
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING A DIGITAL VIDEO SIGNAL



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method and an encoder for encoding a digital video sequence, said digital video sequence comprising some sets of images including a disparity map, said disparity map being used to reconstruct one image of a set of images from another image of said set of images. The method is characterized in that it comprises the steps of:- encoding a type of a disparity map to be used for the reconstruction of an image, and- encoding the disparity map. Use: encoder in a video communication system



SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	NAITO S ET AL: "Advanced rate control technologies for 3D-HDTV digital coding based on MPEG-2 multi-view profile" IMAGE PROCESSING, 1999. ICIP 99. PROCEEDINGS. 1999 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KOBE, JAPAN 24-28 OCT. 1999, PISCATAWAY, NJ, USA, IEEE, US, 24 October 1999 (1999-10-24), pages 281-285, XP010369123 ISBN: 0-7803-5467-2 Par 3. GOP structures fro Multi-view coding Par 4. Discriminatory bit allocation --- -/--	1-7

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01 01348 A (DYNAMIC DIGITAL DEPTH RES PTY ;HARMAN PHILIP VICTOR (AU); MILLIN A) 4 January 2001 (2001-01-04) page 1, line 1 - line 23 page 5, line 1 - line 14 -----	1-7
A	US 6 055 012 A (HASKELL BARIN GEOFFRY ET AL) 25 April 2000 (2000-04-25) the whole document ----	1-7
A	PANIS S ET AL: "The use of stereo and motion in a generic object-based coder" SIGNAL PROCESSING. IMAGE COMMUNICATION, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS, AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 9, no. 3, 1 March 1997 (1997-03-01), pages 221-238, XP004057103 ISSN: 0923-5965 the whole document -----	1-7

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US 6055012	A	25-04-2000	NONE		